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(54) **System and method for embedding a watermark signal that contains message data in a digital image**

(57) A method for embedding a watermark signal that contains message data in a digital image represented as a two-dimensional array of pixel values, includes the steps of: providing a dispersed message image having pixel values representative of the message data;

modifying each pixel value of the dispersed message image as a function of the corresponding pixel value in the digital image; and combining the modified dispersed message image with the digital image to produce a watermarked image.

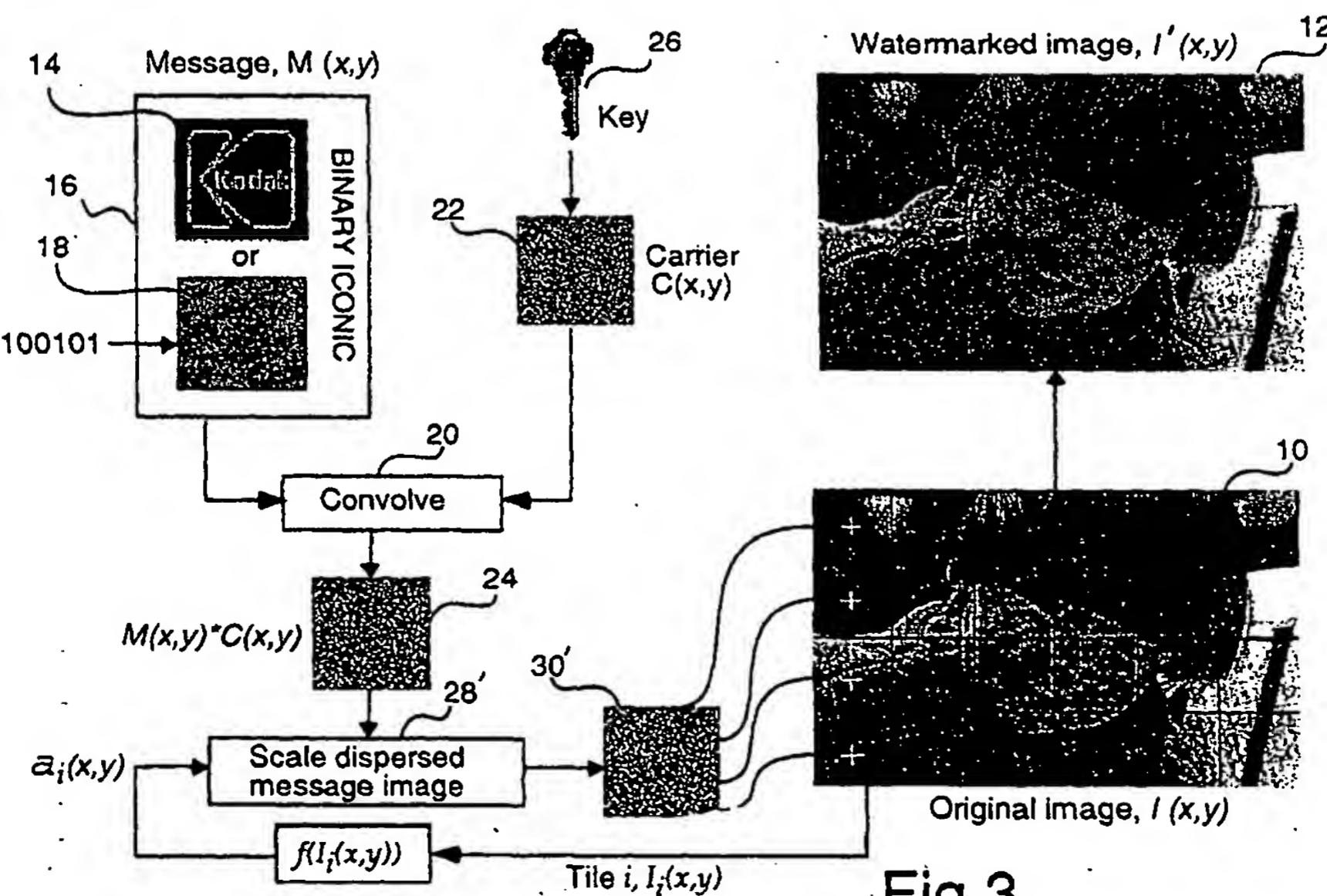


Fig.3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 01 20 4593

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner
BERLIN	10 October 2003		dos Santos, L
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 20 4593

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner
BERLIN	10 October 2003		dos Santos, L
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>	
<p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

10-10-2003

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82